

Message Text

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ACTION IO-03

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-10 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-14 USIA-04 EB-03 NEA-06 SAB-01 DRC-01 /071 W

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R 092300Z OCT 74

FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6157

INFO AMEMBASSY PANAMA

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 3876

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UN, PFOR, PN, US

SUBJ: CONVERSATION WITH PANAMANIAN PERMREP BOYD

1. PANAMANIAN PERMREP BOYD, IN ADDITION TO COMMENTING ON PANAMANIAN POSITION ON KHMER AND KOREA ISSUES IN UN (SEPTEL), OFFERED TO MISOFF OCTOBER 8 HIS VIEWS ON US RELATIONS WITH CUBA, PANAMANIAN TIES WITH THE NON-ALIGNED, AND PANAMA'S ROLE AT THE 29TH UNGA.

2. US RELATIONS WITH CUBA: AMBASSADOR BOYD SAID THAT CUBAN FOREIGN MINISTER ROA'S OCTOBER 7TH UN SPEECH OFFERED "NOTHING CONCILIATORY" TOWARDS US. BOYD THOUGHT THAT, AS RESULT OF REVELATIONS ABOUT US ROLE IN CHILE, CUBANS "NOT JUST SCARED BUT TERRIFIED" THAT ESTABLISHMENT OF US EMBASSY IN CUBA WOULD LEAD TO SIMILAR US INVOLVEMENT IN CUBAN POLITICS. BOYD ADDED THAT IN VIEW OF RECORD PRICES FOR SUGAR WHICH CUBANS CAN NOW OBTAIN ON WORLD MARKET, THEY UNDER NO ECONOMIC COMPULSION TO RESTORE RELATIONS WITH US AT THIS TIME. BOYD THOUGHT THAT IN ANY EVENT CUBANS WOULD INSIST ON US MAKING THE FIRST GESTURE SINCE, ACCORDING TO HIM, "THE US ECONOMIC BLOCKADE PUSHED CUBA INTO THE SOVIET ORBIT IN THE FIRST PLACE."

3. PANAMA AND THE NON-ALIGNED: BOYD SAID HE DISTURBED
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BY PANAMA'S ESTABLISHMENT OF RELATIONS WITH RELATIVELY

INSIGNIFICANT RADICAL NON-ALIGNED STATES, PARTICULARLY IN ARAB WORLD. BOYD ATTRIBUTED THIS MOVE TO CLEVER EXPLOITATION BY ARABS OF PANAMANIAN PREOCCUPATION WITH CANAL ISSUE. SOME ARAB STATES OFFERING ALL OUT ACTIVE SUPPORT BY NON-ALIGNED OF PANAMA'S POSITION ON CANAL IN RETURN FOR PANAMANIAN SUPPORT OF ARAB POSITION IN MIDDLE EAST. BOYD WORRIED THAT ANY SUCH MOVE BY PANAMANIAN GOVERNMENT WOULD ANTAGONIZE INFLUENTIAL MEMBERS OF JEWISH COMMUNITY IN PANAMA AND WOULD EVENTUALLY WORK AGAINST TORRIJOS' GOVERNMENT. BOYD ADDED THAT SOME YOUNGER ELEMENTS IN PANAMANIAN GOVERNMENT ARGUING THAT PANAMA SHOULD MOVE FROM OBSERVER STATUS TO FULL-FLEDGED MEMBER OF NON-ALIGNED GROUP IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE FULLY IN LIMA NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE NEXT YEAR.

4. PANAMA AT THE UN: BOYD SAID HE DOING HIS BEST TO PREVENT PANAMANIAN ACTIONS AT UN FROM COMPLICATING CANAL NEGOTIATIONS. BOYD CLAIMED THAT AS SOON AS HE LEARNED THAT FONMIN TACK CANCELLING HIS NEW YORK VISIT, HE PERSUADED TACK THAT PANAMA SHOULD REFRAIN FROM SPEAKING IN UNGA GENERAL DEBATE THIS YEAR SINCE ANY STATEMENT WOULD HAVE TO CONTAIN THIRD WORLD RHETORIC WHICH MIGHT OFFEND US. BOYD ALSO NOTED THAT OCT 2 PANAMANIAN STATEMENT ON RACIAL DISCRIMINATION IN UNGA THIRD (SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN AND CULTURAL) COMMITTEE, WHILE REFERRING TO PANAMANIAN "VICTIMIZATION BY FOREIGN POWER", HAD NOT (UNLIKE PREVIOUS YEARS) MENTIONED US BY NAME NOR HAD IT SPECIFICALLY REFERRED TO CANAL ZONE. BOYD URGED MISOFF TO REPORT THESE "EXAMPLES" OF PANAMA'S MODERATE UN STATEMENTS.

5. WITHOUT MAKING ANY DIRECT REFERENCES TO HIMSELF, BOYD EXPRESSED SOME NERVOUSNESS OVER POSSIBILITY THAT CHANGES IN PANAMANIAN GOVERNMENT AND DIPLOMATIC SERVICE WOULD BE ANNOUNCED IN GENERAL TORRIJOS' OCT 11 SPEECH.
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